We Still Live.

In the Revelations, we read there is such a thing as to have a "name to live but are dead." We trust this is not our condition; but admit there is not that earnest, fearless working life among us that we would love to see and join in with. Yet we are glad to say our little band is still increasing; eight very excellent members have been added to us during the past year. We are getting along pleasantly, and all our members now seem to be in fine spirits.

Bro. McFaden spent a few days with us during the year and preached several excellent sermons. One of them was the funeral of the son of Sister Firestone, a young man 19 years old, who died from a very uncommon accident. He was helping a neighbor to thresh in a barn and in getting out of the mow which was about 7 feet above the level of the floor, he sat down on some sheaves and slid down. In doing so he did not see a rake that was sitting up against the mow with a sharp handle which ran into his body about 20 inches. This was done Thursday evening and he lived until Monday.

Myself and wife and Bro. McFaden, visited the family and the young man in his suffering. It was a sad thing to see him in such a condition, he seemed to have hope that he would get well but withal was much concerned about his Soul, and was anxious for some one to pray for him, which Bro. McFaden did very earnestly; and appearantly was a great comfort to him. Although he was not a member of any church, yet he gave very satisfactory evidence that he had given his heart to God, he was a good boy from childhood, never was known to use any bad language and was ever obedient to his parents, and when nearing the hour of death called his mother to the bed and said, "Mother you are a Christian and when you die you are going to heaven to wear a crown." She answered, "I hope I may my son, will you meet me there?" "Yes, I will, and if I could live I would join the church." His mother asked, which chuch? He very emphatically said, the Progressive Church. Now mother I am going to leave you but before I go I want to kiss you and all my brothers and sisters." He kissed and bade his mother farewell, with many words of love; then each of his sisters. He said to his oldest sister who came first: "Are you going to do what you promised me?" "What was that?" "You promised me you would meet me in heaven." She promised and he kissed and bade her farewell, and all the rest, four sisters and one brother alike, saying, "tell me which one it is; I don't want to make a mistake," and lastly called his father who is not a professor of religion and put his arms around his neck saying, "Father my arms are getting cold" and talked to him as to the rest. My wife was present and says she never witnessed such a scene before; a scene mixed with joy and sadness. Being asked soon afterwards, "Joe, are you trusting in the blood of Jesus?" He quickly answered, "Yes; oh yes."

Sometime after this when he seemed to be almost gone, he suddenly began to sing, "Twilight is stealing over the sea"—distinctly sang a few words of it and just before he called his mother to his bed he said, "where am I?" she told him he was at home. He said, "It can't be possible; I am in a strange country; did you ever see anything like it? Well I'll declare!" he said "I never saw anything like it!"

Soon he passed peacefully away.

A very large procession followed his remains to the "Old Valley Church," where Bro. McFaden preached (may I say) a grand sermon from the text found in Revelation. "That Great City."

The congregation was made up largely of German Baptists and I think while he was preaching all hearts forgot there was such a thing as divisions among us. Afterwards several persons of other denominations came to me and congratulated us on our "able preacher."

We were sorry we could not keep him longer, but hope he will visit us soon again.

We are glad to hear of the good work going on and the additions being made to the church. We are, moreover, glad to see the earnestness in the hearts of many to pay off Our College debt. I think I can safely say our little church here will present the names of three members (provided you can get sixty who will give $100 each in addition to what they have already given), to pay off the debt; or to put it in plainer words, we will be three of sixty who will give one hundred each to raise $6,000 and set Bro. Holsinger free so that he may be wholly engaged in visiting the churches and organizing new ones; and he and family *shall* be supported and taken care of as long as he lives,—*so say Virginians*, and I think such voice will be heard from the East and West, and North and South God bless him and all such.

C. NININGER.

Hollins, Roanoke, Va.

P. S. Our office is changed from Botetout Springs to Hollins, Roanoke Co., Va. C. N.

A Few Thoughts.

In looking over Bro. Hixson's piece in No. 1, on Mission work, a few thoughts came to my mind. Cannot each member deny himself or herself of some luxury and pay in one dollar each to the treasurer for the Mission Work. I hope and trust we can; in fact I believe that there is not a member in the state who does not spend one dollar in each six months that does no one any good.

Now let each one put his shoulder to the mission wheel, and each organized church call its members together and raise their quoto. If you have thirty members raise thirty dollars at least. If all are not prepared at present, give an obligation to pay it within six months. And if there be some who are not able some others can help to pay their quoto. Their is no penalty in our convention for a member that should feel like paying more than one dollar to the mission work.

So Brethren and Sisters if the Lord has blessed you with this world's goods more than some others, pay in your fives or tens or twenty dollars to the mission work.

Those who are in isolated places, send your one or more dollars direct to the state treasurer so that the good work may be going on, and by so doing we can keep our Missionary in the field till midsummer at least; and if there should be more calls than our missionary can fill and more money in the treasury than is needed at the next convention we can elect more than one.

I think that the increase of members and the new organizations that will be established will strengthen our Brotherhood so by another Fall, our state will be more progressive than at the present time, and by throwing our mites together, we can see what good may be done and all feel like praising the Lord for granting us the privilege of holding our first state Convention.

Just stop and think what rejoicing there is in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, and I am sure that our appointed missionary will cause many sinners to repent and believe the gospel.

J. LITCHFIELD.

Lawrence, Kans.

Home Mission and Educational Work.

Enclosed, find $3.00; one dollar for the college, one for the Missionary Fund and one for the purpose of educating ministers that they may be able to enter the field and work for the Master. This one thought has been impressed on my mind in particular for the past six weeks. I don't know of such a work being started; but some one will have to make a beginning and if no one else will follow suit use that dollar in whatever way it may be most beneficial to the church.

Oh, how my heart is filled with joy when I read the E., and read of the ingathering of souls; and how our heart aches that we are separated from the Brethren. I think they are doing all they can for the few ministers, but I think the church might do more in trying to educate ministers. There are, without a doubt, men that would be willing to devote their lives to the service of God and the destruction of sin, if they had the means.

Brethren and Sisters let us wake up and see what we can do, those of you who live within the reach of organized churches; think of us who are scattered abroad and are deprived of those happy privileges.

I think (if I mistake not) that Bro. Holsinger mentioned something some time ago about educating ministers that were not able, and asked the question who was the first one to respond and say that he would pay tuition for one term at the college. Well Bro. Henry, perhaps that was a little steep at least I felt so for myself, although there are hundreds that are more able to give eight or ten dollars than I am to give one. But, perhaps, they have a good many places to give; but yet we must always remember that the Lord loveth a cheerful giver.

I hope and pray that ere long there will be a Brethren church organized in every city, even in Marshalltown.

The fields are all ripening, and far and wide,
The world now is waiting the harvest tide.
But reapers are few, and the work is great
And much will be lost should the harvest wait.

A SISTER.

The Missionary Fund.

I am glad to see that the mission fund is growing, though it be somewhat slow. I thought when it had started that it surely would have grown faster than it has. Why does it not grow more rapidly? can any one doubt but what it is right to give for so noble and grand a work? Does any of our dear brothers and sisters think for a moment of the Poor Widow's mite, how she cast it into the treasury all that she had, even all her living, this was not demanded of her, she did it with a willing heart, and how this has been spoken of her, even until now, she done what she could, who of all of us has done what we could? We are not asked to give all our living, only let us give what we feel like giving, and remember the Lord loves a cheerful giver. Let is be a freewill offering, and may each mite be watered by the dews of heaven that it may grow. Brethren and Sisters send in your mite, it is more blessed to give than to receive, and truly there may be a blessing in store for every one if we have done what we could.

A SISTER.

The Work at Tiosa Ind.

It is truly refreshing to see the large accession to the fold of Christ, in some parts of his moral vineyard, and that the good cause is prospering at Tiosa under the administration of our energetic Brother, J. W. Fitzgerald, whose activities have been blessed by precious souls flocking to the blood-stained banner of King Immanuel, prince of hope and peace.

Bro. Fitzgerald commenced a series of meetings on Saturday night, Dec. 16, and has preached every night since, and on every Lords day, and up to this writing there has been fourteen accessions to the church. Seven have been baptized and six yet to be baptized. One united with us from the G. B. Church, making in all fourteen, and the end is not yet. Since the begining of our meeting the nights have been dark and the roads muddy and now it is extremely cold. Notwithstanding all this, we have had large congregations; every body seemed to enjoy the meetings and a generous good feeling was manifested all through.

May the Lord bless the efforts put forth at this and all other points for the cause of our Master and may our indefatigable brother be blessed for his untiring zeal and labor is the prayer of the writer.

W. L. WOLE.

Jan. 11.

Religion in the Family.

Where are you young men, when God is calling whom shall I send, and who shall go for us? Where are you who have the voice to answer here am I, send me? Where today is the spirit of consecration in our families? A good deal has been said about the theological seminaries in regard to this matter of missionary zeal, but I think we have to go further back to account for the deficiency which the report refers to, I think we must go back to the home life of our church-members. Do you remember that there were two sets of brothers and probably three among the Apostles, indicating that they came out of homes where the parents had kept an open ear for the coming of the consolation of Israel? I wish the people of this generation had something of this spirit of consecration toward other scenes and duties which was largely characteristic of Christian familiesa generation ago.—WM. M. TAYLOR, D. D.